



EASTERN ASIA: In Manchuria, widespread showers (25-80 mm) eased drought conditions and stabilized summer crop yield potentials. In the North China Plain, showers (50-150 mm) boosted moisture supplies in southern Hebei and Shandong, but lighter showers (less than 25 mm) fell across Henan and northern Anhui and Jiangsu. Moderate rain (15-60 mm, with isolated amounts greater than 100 mm) boosted moisture supplies for summer crops across the northwestern grain areas of southern Gansu, Shaanxi, and Shanxi. On August 10, Typhoon Jelawat hit the eastern province of Zhejiang with sustained winds of 65 knots (75 mph). The storm helped to produce moderate to heavy showers (50-130 mm) across Zhejiang and northern Jiangxi, and southern Anhui. Across the rest of central and southern China, widespread showers (25-125 mm) maintained favorable moisture supplies for rice. Only the northern half of Guangxi and southern Guizhou received lesser amounts of rain (less than 25 mm). Temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal across Manchuria and 1 to 2 degrees C above normal across the rest of China. Showers (30-150 mm) eased drought across northwestern North Korea. Showers (25-60 mm) maintained moisture supplies across South Korea and northern Japan. In southern Japan, dry, sunny weather favored rice development, but reduced moisture supplies. Temperatures averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal across the Korean Peninsula and Japan. During July, drought-stressed reproductive summer crops and reduced yield potentials in southern Manchuria and northern North Korea. In northern Manchuria, near to slightly below-normal July rainfall helped to stabilize yield potentials. Above-normal July rainfall boosted moisture supplies across the western North China Plain, but below-normal rainfall stressed summer crops in the east. Across most of southern China, near-normal July rainfall maintained moisture supplies for rice and summer crops. However, below-normal rainfall in the eastern Yangtze Valley reduced moisture supplies. Near-normal monthly rainfall maintained moisture supplies in South Korea and northern Japan, while below-normal rainfall in southern Japan reduced moisture supplies.